AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) Apparatus for forming an article from a blank of sheet metal ~~wherein the blank has marginal edge portions, the apparatus~~ comprising:

a first die member having a cavity formed therein;

means for producing a magnetic field disposed at least adjacent the cavity in ~~said~~ the first die member for selectively restraining movement ~~of the marginal edge portions~~ of the blank of sheet metal;

a second die member mounted for relative reciprocal movement ~~toward and away from the cavity formed~~ in respect of ~~said~~ the first die member;

means for imparting ~~selective~~ relative reciprocal movement ~~of~~ between the first die member and ~~said~~ the second die member to deform the blank of sheet metal within the cavity of the first die member; and

control means for ~~selectively energizing said means for producing a~~ varying the magnetic field ~~to selectively restrain movement of the marginal edge portions of the blank of sheet metal during the forming of the article~~ during the deformation of the blank of sheet metal.

2. (currently amended) The invention defined in Claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the means for producing a magnetic field includes a plurality of electromagnets.

3. (currently amended) The invention defined in ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 2 wherein ~~said~~ the cavity includes an open end.

4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) The invention defined in ~~Claim 5~~ Claim 3 wherein ~~said~~ the electromagnets are disposed in spaced relation about the open end of ~~said~~ the cavity.

7. (currently amended) The invention defined in ~~Claim 4~~ Claim 2 wherein ~~said~~ the control means includes a microprocessor for controlling the strength of the magnetic field produced by ~~said~~ the electromagnets.

8. (currently amended) The invention defined in Claim 7 wherein ~~said~~ the control means includes a source of power coupled to ~~said~~ the electromagnets through ~~said~~ the microprocessor.

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) Method for forming an article from a blank of sheet metal including the steps of:

providing a first die member having a cavity formed therein;

disposing a plurality of electromagnets spaced ~~relation~~ about the cavity in ~~said~~ the first die member for restraining movement of the blank of sheet metal;

positioning a blank of sheet metal having marginal edge portions over the cavity of ~~said~~ the first die member;

providing a second die member mounted for relative reciprocal movement ~~toward and away from the cavity formed~~ in respect of ~~said~~ the first die member

providing means for imparting ~~selective~~ relative reciprocal movement ~~of~~ between the first die member and ~~said~~ the second die member to deform the blank of sheet metal; and

~~selectively energizing~~ varying the magnetic field of ~~said~~ the electromagnets to selectively restrain movement ~~of the marginal edge portions~~ of the blank of sheet metal ~~during the forming of the article~~ during the deformation of the blank of sheet metal.